

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AEC-05 H-01 INR-05 IO-10 L-02

OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02

SS-15 TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-05 BIB-01 /080 R

DRAFTED BY OSD:JMORRISON:GG

APPROVED BY ACDA/IR:DLINEBAUGH

C:WSHINN

PM/DCA:VBAKER

ACDA/IR:THIRSCHFELD

EUR/RPM:GCHRISTIANSON

NSC:MHIGGINS

OSD:LMICHAEL

JCS:WWOOD

S/S- JMEALUM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL MBFR VIENNA IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION NATO

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S E C R E T STATE 272441

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PARM, NATO

SUBJECT:MBFR PARA 29 STABILIZING MEASURES

REFS: A. MBFR VIENNA 484 B. STATE 251448

1. PARA 29 STABILIZING MEASURES PROVISION FOR RESIDUAL
LEVELS AND EXCEPTIONS (REF B) WAS DRAFTED TO MEET US

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REQUIREMENTS AND PROMPT A SOVIET RESPONSE. BECAUSE SOVIET

DRAFT AGREEMENT OF 8 NOVEMBER 1973 CONTAINED NO PROVISION FOR EXCEPTIONS TO RESIDUAL FORCE LEVELS AND SOVIETS HAVE PREVIOUSLY TAKEN NEGATIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS STABILIZING MEASURES IN GENERAL, WE BELIEVED WE SHOULD PUT FORWARD US REQUIREMENTS AND MAKE SOVIETS COME FORWARD WITH ANY REQUIREMENTS THEY, ON REFLECTION, MIGHT HAVE. WE HOPE IN THIS WAY TO INDUCE THE SOVIETS TO JOIN IN A SERIOUS DISCUSSION OF ASSOCIATED MEASURES.

2. WE DO NOT HAVE HIGH CONFIDENCE IN WHAT SOVIET REQUIREMENTS MAY BE. OUR BEST ESTIMATES ARE THAT FOR EXERCISES SOVIETS GENERALLY DO NOT INTRODUCE TROOP UNITS INTO THE NGA BUT ON OCCASION WHEN THEY HAVE DONE SO IN RECENT PAST THE NUMBER OF PERSONNEL LIKELY DID NOT EXCEED 2,000. IT IS NOT KNOWN HOW LARGE A TEMPORARY STRENGTH INCREASE MAY OCCUR DUE TO OVERLAP OF PERSONNEL DURING ROTATIONS. OUR BEST ESTIMATE FOR TEMPORARY STRENGTH INCREASE DURING ROTATIONS IS THAT ON ANY GIVEN DAY TROOP STRENGTH

PROBABLY DID NOT EXCEED BETWEEN 10,000 AND 15,000 ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL. FOR FUTURE ROTATIONS, TEMPORARY STRENGTH INCREASE WOULD LIKELY NOT EXCEED 20,000 ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL. WE NOTE THAT IN MOST RECENT ROTATION IT WOULD APPEAR THAT MORE PERSONNEL WERE INVOLVED THAN IN PAST ROTATIONS, AND THAT AIR TRANSPORTATION PLAYS AN EVER-INCREASING ROLE. PRESUMABLY CONTINUATION OF CURRENT PRACTICE WOULD REQUIRE TWO PERIODS A YEAR FOR EXCEPTIONS FOR LARGE-SCALE SOVIET ROTATIONS.

3. WE WOULD HOPE THAT SOVIETS WOULD RAISE THIS ISSUE AND STATE ANY REQUIREMENTS THEY HAVE IN A MULTILATERAL INFORMAL OR PLENARY SESSION. UNTIL THEY DO SO, WE WOULD NOT WANT TO OFFER A CHANGE IN PARA 29 PROVISION PROPOSED TO THEM. AFTER CONSULTING WITH AHG YOU MIGHT IN MEANTIME MAKE POINTS BILATERALLY ALONG FOLLOWING LINES TO SOVIET REPS:

- WE HAVE BASED OUR PROPOSAL FOR STABILIZING MEASURES FOR RESIDUAL LEVELS AND EXCEPTIONS ON OUR REQUIREMENTS.

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- WE DO NOT SEEK UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE, AND IF EAST HAS PROPOSALS OF THEIR OWN WE WOULD EXPECT THEM TO PUT THESE FORWARD FOR CONSIDERATION. INGERSOLL

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